

Message Text

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12

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INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

UNCLAS USUN 979

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, NI, RH, MZ

SUBJ: NIGERIAN SUPPORT FOR MOZAMBIQUE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MARCH 8 LETTER FROM NIGERIAN
PERM REP TO SYG, CIRCULATED AS GA/SC DOCUMENT, MARCH 11:

QUOTE

I HAVE THE HONOUR, UPON THE INSTRUCTION OF MY GOVERNMENT, TO
FORWARD HERewith THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT PUBLISHED BY THE
FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT, IN CONNEXION WITH THE RECENT
ATTACK ON MOZAMBIQUE BY THE FORCES OF THE ILLEGAL REGIME OF
IAN SMITH. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PLEASE ARRANGE
TO CIRCULATE THE STATEMENT AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNDER ITEM 85 OF THE PRELIMINARY LIST OF
ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE
THIRTY-FIRST SESSION, AND OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

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(SIGNED) L.O. HARRIMAN

AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

ANNEX

STATEMENT OF THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT ON THE CLOSURE OF
THE BORDER BETWEEN MOZAMBIQUE AND RHODESIA

1. THE COURAGEOUS DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE TO CLOSE ITS BORDERS AGAINST THE RACIST REGIME OF RHODESIA MUST BE SEEN AS A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMON EFFORT BY FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLES THE WORLD OVER TO BRING DOWN THAT OBNOXIOUS REGIME AND RID ZIMBABWE OF THE FORCES OF DARKNESS, OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION. WHEN MOZAMBIQUE PROCLAIMED ITS INDEPENDENCE BARELY NINE MONTHS AGO, IT INHERITED A WAR-TORN ECONOMY ALREADY RAVAGED BY COLONIAL GREED AND EXPLOITATION. BUT TRUE TO ITS COMMITMENT OF HELPING IN THE TOTAL LIBERATION OF AFRICA, THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE HAS PUT ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS ASIDE AND STOOD UP IN DEFENCE OF FREEDOM, JUSTICE AND HUMAN DIGNITY. THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT, APPLAUDS THIS ACT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE AND SALUTES THE FORESIGHT, COURAGE, STEADFASTNESS AND DEDICATION OF ITS LEADERS.

2. AS FAR AS THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED, THE BATTLE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA HAS BEGUN AND THERE WILL BE NO TURNING BACK. ANGOLA SHOULD BE A LESSON TO ALL THOSE COLONIALISTS, IMPERIALISTS, EXPLOITERS AND THEIR FELLOW TRAVELLERS WHO WANT TO PUT THE HAND OF THE CLOCK BACK IN AFRICA. THE STRUGGLE MAY BE LONG AND BITTER, BUT HISTORY HAS ASSURED US THAT VICTORY IS CERTAIN.

3. AFRICA WILL NOT BE COWED BY THE THREATENING STICK OF MULTINATIONAL MONOPOLIES AND BIG POWERS WHOSE AIM IS TO KEEP AFRICA UNDER PERPETUAL SUBJECTION. WE CALL ON ALL FRIENDS OF AFRICA, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE NOW ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE, TO CONTINUE WITH THE SAME COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION AND NOT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE DISCOURAGED BY THREATS AND BLACKMAIL BECAUSE THE CAUSE THEY ARE SUPPORTING IS RIGHT AND HISTORY WILL REMEMBER THEM.

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4. THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT EXPRESSES ITS ACTIVE SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE IN THEIR STRUGGLE AND PROCLAIMS ITS WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT FOR THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF MOZAMBIQUE ARE PLAYING.

5. IN THIS CONNECTION, A SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT WILL VISIT MOZAMBIQUE SOON TO ASCERTAIN IN WHAT AREAS THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT CAN BE OF HELP TO THE

PEOPLES OF MOZAMBIQUE AND ZIMBABWE.

LAGOS, 6 MARCH 1976

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